

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is disclosed a sheet accumulation processing device having a shielding mechanism of a sheet discharge opening which is simple in mechanism, low in cost and requires no complicated control. In the device, after an end of a sheet bunch sent via one end of a slit opening formed in a housing front face of the device is received by a sheet holding means disposed in the slit opening in a predetermined receiving position, the sheet holding means with the sheet bunch held therein is moved along the opening and, in a predetermined discharge position in the slit opening, discharges the sheet bunch onto a sheet accumulating tray in front of the housing. In the discharge position, a sheet holding section of the holding means is rotated forward and downward from its sheet-bunch holding condition and protruded forward from the housing front face, then releases the sheet bunch to place the sheet bunch onto the sheet accumulating tray. The slit opening in the discharge position changes from a closed condition to an opened condition dependent on the rotating movement of the sheet holding section, and subsequently changes from the opened condition to the closed condition dependently when the sheet holding section is retreated into the slit opening. The sheet holding section can thus be protruded and retreated via the housing front face.